



SUMMER 2001

Louisiana COASTLINES

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DNR Secretary Testifies Before Congress on CARA Bill

Secretary Jack Caldwell of the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources testified in June before the United States House Resources Committee on behalf of a bill that would help fund the state's efforts to save its vanishing coastline.

The Congressional hearing focused on the Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA), a bill that overwhelmingly passed the House last year, but was never brought to the floor of the Senate. Reintroduced in the House this year by Representatives Billy Tauzin and Chris John, it could put more than \$200 million a year into Louisiana's coastal restoration efforts.

In his testimony, Sec. Caldwell pointed out Louisiana's unique position as a key player in the future of the nation's offshore oil and gas supplies, with 25% of all of America's oil and gas crossing Louisiana's coast by pipeline, barge or tanker. He went on to explain the state's ongoing environmental crisis as it continues to lose its valuable coast at the staggering rate of 35 square mile a year.

Caldwell described the state's coastal wetlands as America's wetland, three million acres that protect the nation's offshore oil and gas

infrastructure. He went on to say that those same wetlands support a third of the nation's total volume of fisheries and provide wildlife hab-

itat for two-thirds of Mississippi Flyway waterfowl and for many endangered and threatened species.

"Just two weeks ago, Tropical Storm Allison hit the Texas/Louisiana coast and the price of crude oil jumped up a dollar a barrel," Caldwell said. "Can you imagine what would happen if a Category Three hurricane made a direct hit on the 20-thousand miles of pipelines off Louisiana's coast? The economic and ecological damage to the nation would be enormous."

The CARA bill now has 223 co-sponsors in the U.S. House of Representatives and is expected to be reintroduced in the Senate in the near future by Senators Landrieu and Breaux.



Louisiana DNR Hosts National Wetland Workshop

If asked the question, "How do we improve the effectiveness of coastal and estuarine wetland restoration," the answer might just lie with the word *we*. Many of the experts attending the *National Symposium: Coastal and Estuarine Wetland Restoration Workshop* this June would agree that strong partnerships (synonymous with *we*) are important in advancing the success of wetland restoration programs.

Some 250 scientists, coastal specialists, and other professionals gathered in Baton Rouge, June 18-21, for the Association of State Wetland Managers (ASWM) conference to discuss how to improve their work in restoration project construction, project monitoring, wetland mitigation, and how to more effectively deal with funding issues, landowners, laws, and

multi-objectives. Jon Kusler of New York, ASWM's Associate Director served as the workshop's primary moderator. Coastal Ecologist Steve Gammill of the Department of Natural Resources's Coastal Restoration Division (almost singlehandedly) coordinated the sessions, speakers and opening-day field trip. DNR Assistant Secretary Randy Hanchey told conference goers to expect a full menu of ideas and topics over the course of their stay in Louisiana. And indeed there was!

Current wetland mitigation efforts was a prime target of discussion and one presenter insisted that mitigation money is best used to fund large projects that are professionally supervised rather than small, private projects.

Hydrology, and the way water bodies flow was a hot topic in a number of the meeting sessions. Sea-level rise and wetland restoration 'case studies' also dominated the workshop's agenda. How managers and researchers utilize Geographic Information Systems (GIS) received broad attention as well.

Additionally, ASWM attendees heard from the Xerox Connect Company representatives of North Carolina on recommendations for improving the coastal use permit process at the Louisiana DNR. Xerox company officials cited the use of new technology as a major recommendation in providing faster service to permit recipients.



DNR Assistant Secretary Randy Hanchey, Jon Kusler, and Steve Gammill shown here at the Coastal and Estuarine Wetland Restoration Workshop held June 18-21 in Baton Rouge. The "Wetlands" wall mural shown in the background was designed and handpainted on silk fabric using a vibrant color-scheme by Jeanne Christie of Maryland, ASWM's Executive Director.



CMD Participates in Wetland Watchers Celebration

—Community Outreach—

DNR's Coastal Management Division staff recently participated in the annual LaBranche Wetland Watchers Celebration in Destrehan.

The event was part of the Hurst Middle School's service-learning project to teach students about wetlands conservation.

Hurst Middle, a National Service Learning Leader School, is one of only 64 middle schools in the country to receive this service recognition. Government agencies, universities, corporations, and numerous private organizations come together with the Wetland Watchers group to plant trees, pick up trash, collect water quality data and map out nature trails for the community.



Coastal Resources Management Specialist, Marilyn Forbes, demonstrates the value of the wetlands by using an Enviroscope Wetlands Model.



A student from Hurst Middle School participates in the celebration as CMD's outreach coordinator Steve Chustz (far left) teaches wetland conservation.



Loran Coordinates Posted from March to May 2001

In accordance with the provisions of R.S. 56:700.1 et. seq., notice is given that 44 claims in the amount of \$152,026.36 were received for payment during the period March 1, 2001 - May 31, 2001. There were 40 claims paid and four claims denied.

A list of claimants and amounts paid can be obtained from Verlie Wims, Administrator, Fishermen's Gear Compensation Fund, P.O. Box 94396, Baton Rouge, LA 70804 or you can call (225) 342-0122.

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates of reported underwater obstructions are:

29 00.617	89 08.129	PLAQUEMINES
29 02.946	89 23.559	PLAQUEMINES
29 04.754	90 45.698	TERREBONNE
29 05.556	90 10.880	LAFOURCHE
29 05.832	89 21.985	PLAQUEMINES
29 07.354	90 07.826	JEFFERSON
29 08.275	90 05.142	LAFOURCHE
29 14.610	83 57.000	PLAQUEMINES
29 14.902	89 64.844	JEFFERSON
29 16.353	89 29.915	PLAQUEMINES
29 17.254	89 42.485	PLAQUEMINES
29 21.764	89 12.763	PLAQUEMINES
29 22.126	89 35.981	PLAQUEMINES
29 29.000	89 45.000	PLAQUEMINES
29 30.594	90 07.754	JEFFERSON
29 38.974	89 32.826	ST BERNARD
29 42.616	89 37.256	ST BERNARD
29 42.655	89 51.145	PLAQUEMINES
29 43.330	90 07.250	JEFFERSON
29 44.365	89 28.421	ST BERNARD
29 46.628	89 25.683	ST BERNARD
29 48.500	89 38.000	ST BERNARD
29 51.060	93 20.724	CAMERON
29 51.842	93 20.783	CAMERON
29 52.600	89 42.371	ST BERNARD
29 53.121	89 15.670	ST BERNARD
29 54.448	89 47.416	ST BERNARD
29 54.587	89 39.057	ST BERNARD
29 57.651	89 42.539	ST BERNARD
30 01.361	89 25.562	ST BERNARD
30 04.310	93 18.570	CALCASIEU
39 39.333	89 30.356	ST BERNARD

**Loran Coordinates of reported underwater obstructions are:**

26622	46979	CAMERON
26753	46980	CAMERON
26854	46973	CAMERON
27750	46916	ST MARY
27894	46862	TERREBONNE
28042	46833	TERREBONNE
28118	46898	TERREBONNE
28573	46855	JEFFERSON
28953	46784	PLAQUEMINES
29077	46839	PLAQUEMINES

Allison's Flooding Stretches South to Northeast

Scientists had just released its hurricane season predictions when Allison surprisingly poured in as the first storm of the 2001 season. And although Tropical Storm Allison may never be called a hurricane, her wrath caused over \$2 billion in damages in Houston alone from early reports. By the middle of June, damages in Louisiana had reached \$50 million while thousands of people were turning to FEMA and other agencies to register for help.

Seemingly unending, Allison forced her way northward as she hurled through North Carolina, Virginia, and the New England states. Heavy rain, flooding and power outages hit Pennsylvania just one week after Allison left 22 parishes in Louisiana as declared disaster areas. The aftermath from this drenching and battering storm left many families devastated and homeless. News

Hurricane Names 2001

Allison	Lorenzo
Barry	Michelle
Chantal	Noel
Dean	Opal
Erin	Pablo
Felix	Roxanne
Gabrielle	Sebastian
Humberto	Tanya
Iris	Van
Jerry	Wendy
Karen	

agencies reported 48 deaths in six states due to the storm.

The hurricane season extends from June 1 to November 30 and Dr. William Gray and his Colorado State University forecast team expect to name 12 storms with three intense hurricanes during this 2001 season. Gray says he is anticipating an active season not unlike several of the most recent years.



Chance of Lafayette Does Pipeline Research

John E. Chance & Associates, Inc. has begun research work for the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) Coastal Management Division.

Chance will compile pipeline information that is available from the coastal division, the State Land Office, and DNR's Office of Conservation. The work involves conducting a comparison of the data from the three offices for accuracy and entering the results into a digital data base.

The area to be researched includes the shoreline of the Louisiana coast to the three-mile line in the Gulf of Mexico which is the boundary between state waters and federal waters for mineral rights.

Once Chance completes the research, a comprehensive GIS data base of pipelines will be developed. This documentation will pinpoint the location of existing pipelines which can be used to avoid hazards of pipelines during oil and gas industry operations.

"The GIS data base of the state's pipelines will be a valuable tool for

DNR personnel in the coastal, conservation, energy, and mineral resources offices," commented DNR Secretary Jack Caldwell.

Chance has recently updated its own in-house Gulf of Mexico data base, which tracks the location of structures and potential hazards. This exclusive software is useful to Chance personnel to work with clients in planning projects and assuring a safer offshore operation. Chance has incorporated over 40 years of survey service to the Gulf of Mexico into its data base, along with Continental Shelf lease information, shipwrecks, block boundary polygons, pipelines, and shipping fairways. Data from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Minerals Management Service will also be incorporated.

Chance surveyors are currently using the data base to assist clients in planning pipeline routes and in moving and anchoring rigs and barges.

This public document was published at a cost of \$278.61. Two-thousand copies of this public document were published in this printing at a cost of \$278.61. The total cost of all printings of this document including reprints is \$278.61. This document was published by the Department of Natural Resources, P. O. Box 44487, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70804, to inform the public about Coastal Zone Management under authority of 16 U.S.C. 1451, et seq., and La. R.S. 49:214.21 et seq. This material was printed in accordance with the standards for printing by state agencies established pursuant to La. R.S. 43:31. Financial assistance was provided by the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended, administered by the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

P. O. Box 44487 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4487

**Louisiana
COAST LINES**



BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
PAID
Baton Rouge, LA
Permit No. 872

